Wake-Up Call on Recycling Costs
Litter at the Curb
Innovations in Plastics Processing
Self-cleaning melt filter helps tackle contaminated loads

An automatic, self-cleaning melt filter from Italian company Fimic uses a unique valve system to collect and discharge contaminants during plastics recycling.

“Differently from other filters, which discharge continuously through an auger, the Fimic valve discharging system enables the equipment to manage higher levels of contamination and to discharge only when needed,” according to the company. “In fact, with this system, the discharge takes place only when the valve opens and this happens only when the scraping cycle is concluded.”

The equipment uses two blades to scrape contamination from the screen. A blade holder collects the contaminants, which are then discharged via a frontal valve. An operator can program the cleaning cycle to start when the flow reaches a certain pressure. For higher levels of contamination, it can be set to a mode in which it continuously cleans the screen’s surface, with the contaminants discharging according to a pre-set timer.

Boost bag unloading efficiency with Flexicon bulk bag dischargers

Rubber recycling company Edge Rubber used to manually empty bags of rubber from tire retreaders, a slow and inefficient process. But after the Pennsylvania-based company acquired six automated Bulk-Out BFC bulk bag discharger systems, its processing system quickly become more streamlined.

Made by Bethlehem, Pa.-based Flexicon, the bulk bag dischargers allow bags of bulk materials to be emptied smoothly and efficiently into a recycling system.

“No longer must your operators reach through cramped access doors and awkward glove boxes, struggle to re-tie partially empty bags, clean up spillage after disconnections, dislodge products from dead spots or flatten bags manually,” Flexicon stated.

Because material in bags feeding the system can be of different shapes and sizes, the equipment’s Flow Flexer device continually compresses and releases opposite sides of the bulk bag, ensuring consistent flow.